

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAJ-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 COME-00 EB-07 LAB-04 SIL-01 ACDA-10 /092 W

----- 110361

R 031300Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4617

INFO AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

UNCLAS BELGRADE 5780

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, SP

SUBJECT: INTERVIEW WITH SPANISH COMMUNIST PARTY CHIEF

REF : PARIS 28505

1. IN CONTEXT OF SPECULATION OVER POST-FRANCE
SPAIN LEAGUE OF COMMUNISTS (LCY) WEEKLY "KOMUNIST" HAS
PUBLISHED INTERVIEW WITH GENERAL SECRETARY OF
SPANISH COMMUNIST PARTY SANTIAGO CARILLO. THE INTER-
VIEW WAS CONDUCTED IN PARIS BY "KOMUNIST" EDITOR DJURO
DJURASKOVIC. THE DATE WAS NOT SPECIFIED.

2. SPECULATING FIRST ABOUT POST-FRANCEO SPAIN, CARILLO
SAID HE THOUGHT THAT AN UPSURGE OF "DEMOCRACY" WOULD
OVERTAKE ANY ARRANGEMENTS FRANCO HIMSELF HAD FORESEEN.
HE SAID THAT NEITHER CONTINUITY OF FRANCO POLICY UNDER
JUAN CARLOS NOR AN "OPENING UP" WHICH WOULD GIVE THE
JUAN CARLOS REGIME A "LIBERAL FACADE" ARE THE SOLUTION.
HE SAID HE DID NOT KNOW WHETHER A TEMPORARY BROAD COALITION
GOVERNMENT MIGHT BE FORMED. HE DOES EXPECT THAT THE
PROBLEM OF AN AMNESTY FOR POLITICAL PRISONERS WILL SOON
BE POSED. HE ALSO EXPECTS THE WORKERS TO TAKE CONTROL
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OF THE LABOR UNIONS FROM "THE REGIME'S BUREAUCRATS".

CARILLO EXPECTS OPPOSITION POLITICAL PARTIES TO APPEAR
EVEN BEFORE THEY MIGHT RECEIVE LEGAL SANCTION.

3. TURNING TO THE POSITION AND AIMS OF THE COMMUNIST
PARTY, CARILLO SAID, "THE PLATFORM FOR OUR FUTURE ACTION
WILL BE A COALITION OF ALL FORCES WHICH FAVOR SOCIALISM,
EVEN IF THERE MIGHT BE IDEOLOGICAL AND PHILOSOPHICAL
DIFFERENCES WITH RESPECT TO SOME ASPECTS OF HISTORY."
HE SAID THE MOST ESSENTIAL ASPECT OF THE PARTY'S ACTIVITIES
MUST BE "TO MAINTAIN AND STRENGTHEN THE UNITY OF
PROGRESSIVE FORCES". WITHOUT EXPRESSLY SAYING SO, HE
IMPLIES IN THE INTERVIEW THAT UNDER PRESENT CIRCUM-
STANCES THE PARTY WILL WORK TO SUPPORT A MULTI-PARTY
SYSTEM "EVEN THOUGH WE KNOW THAT THIS IS A COMPLICATED
AND DIFFICULT ROAD".

4. IN THE AREA OF FOREIGN POLICY CARILLO EMPHASIZED
THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE PARTY FROM ANY FOREIGN PRESSURES
AND SAID IN THIS RESPECT HIS ATTITUDE IS THE SAME
AS THAT OF THE LCY, "WHICH HAD A LONG TIME AGO TAKEN
THIS ROAD"-- A REFERENCE TO YUGOSLAVIA'S BREAK WITH THE
CPSU IN 1948. WITH REGARD TO MILITARY ALLIANCES,
CARILLO SAID "WE DO NOT INTEND TO PARTICIPATE IN
STRENGTHENING ONE BLOC AGAINST ANOTHER". HE FAVORS
OVERCOMING THE POLICY OF MILITARY BLOCs AND AN END TO
FOREIGN MILITARY BASES "IN WEST AND EAST".
SILBERMAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS CONFERENCES, COMMUNISTS, PARTY LEADERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 NOV 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BELGRA05780
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750381-0235
From: BELGRADE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751182/aaaacvca.tel
Line Count: 88
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 PARIS 28505
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CollinP0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 JUN 2003 by chicheje>; APPROVED <05 MAR 2004 by CollinP0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: INTERVIEW WITH SPANISH COMMUNIST PARTY CHIEF
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, SP, (CARILLO, SANTIAGO)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006